

The Gallipolian

The Journal of the Gallipoli Association

No. 149 - Spring 2019



THE GALLIPOLIAN

The Journal of the Gallipoli Association
founded by Major E. H. W. Banner in 1969 on the Campaign of 1915

The Gallipoli Association

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<http://www.gallipoli-association.org>

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Contents

Important notice for the membership	Page 2
Gallipoli / Anzac Day 25th April 2019 events	Page 2
Education co-ordinator's report	Page 3
Gallipoli Association battlefield tour	Page 8
The Anzac	Page 9
Postscripts to 'The Anzac'	Page 10
They Will Come Again	Page 13
Gerald Brazill – A life well lived	Page 14
Shot through the heart and lived	Page 20
In the knick of time	Page 22
Quartermaster's Stores	Page 22
Articles for <i>The Gallipolitan</i>	Page 23
Last Post	Page 23
His Premonition of death	Page 24
Colour photograph section	Pages 25 - 30
A West Pointer on Gallipoli	Page 31
Remembrance Day parade in Bermuda	Page 40
How Pte. Ras. Hansen died	Page 41
How John Kirby died	Page 42
How Corporal Graffunder died	Page 43
Kilkenny boys at Gallipoli	Page 44
Like old times	Page 45
Dead brothers' portraits found in man's clothes	Page 46
Memory-haunted soldier - peace In Gallipoli	Page 46
Gallipoli Gurkha hero's medals acquired	Page 47
Information Please	Page 50
Lieut. Sullivan's death.	Page 52
A pathetic letter	Page 54
True to name: Bloody Angle	Page 55

The front cover shows detail from a depiction of the Landing at Anzac, 25 April 1915,
from a painting in the editor's collection, artist unknown.

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP

As of 18th May 2019, our '630' mailbox will **cease to be operative**.

If you were intending to send anything via this mailbox, please kindly now and in the future send to Sarah Kellam (Honorary Secretary) at 5 Mews House, Roffey Park, Forest Road, Colgate, West Sussex RH12 4TD where any communication will receive prompt attention. Many thanks.

Other contact details: (phone) 01293 851 466 (email) secretary@gallipoli-association.org

GALLIPOLI / ANZAC DAY 25TH APRIL 2019 EVENTS

5:00 am: Dawn Service

Location: Australian Memorial, Hyde Park Corner

The main service will take place at the Australian Memorial, Hyde Park Corner. The service will be approximately 45 minutes in length and is open to the public.

9.30 am: Gallipoli memorial wreath-laying ceremony (please be seated by 9.00 am)

Location: Crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral

Wreaths will be laid by a representative of Her Majesty's Government and senior representatives of the Royal Navy and the Army and high-ranking officials from Australia and New Zealand, France, the Irish Republic and Turkey. This event is open but you will be asked to show photographic identification as part of the security checks. Members are encouraged to attend this service which is arranged by the Gallipoli Association.

11:00 am: Wreath Laying Ceremony and Parade

Location: The Cenotaph, Whitehall (marchers form up as a group in Charles II St.)

Following a march onto Whitehall, a requiem is read and at 11:00 am, the high commissioners for Australia and New Zealand will lay the first wreaths. Wreaths are then laid by representatives of the UK government, high commissioners and ambassadors, as well as representatives of various service and ex-service organisations. A wreath will be laid on behalf of the Association. Only members and guests with named tickets will be allowed access to the west side of Whitehall. Access details will be given on the tickets.

The service will conclude at approximately 11:15 am, allowing time for the short walk to Westminster Abbey.

The deadline set by the Australian High Commission for tickets is now closed. We expect tickets to be issued directly to us for forward posting to you by mid-April.

12:00 noon: Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving

Location: Westminster Abbey

The Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving to mark Anzac Day commences at 12:00 noon. Members should be seated by 11.45 am. The service will last approximately one hour.

The deadline set by the Australian High Commission for tickets is now closed. We expect tickets to be issued directly to us for forward posting to you by mid-April.

1:30 pm to 4.00 pm: Gallipoli Day Lunch

Location: “The Gun Deck”, The Admiralty Pub, 66 Trafalgar Square (southern edge), London WC2N 5DS

Lunch will comprise two courses including wine or soft drinks at £35 per head. Please pay by PayPal (giving a reference of “GA Lunch”) by visiting the Gallipoli Association website www.gallipoli-association.org, clicking Read More on the Home Page and then clicking Support Us. Alternatively, please send a cheque made payable to Gallipoli Association to the Hon. Secretary:

Sarah Kellam, 5 Mews House, Roffey Park, Forest Road, Colgate, West Sussex RH12 4TD.

Any questions, please ask. The deadline to book this Lunch is now closed.

EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR’S REPORT

December 2018

Current Educational Projects

Ian Binnie

I was appointed educational co-ordinator of the Gallipoli Association in the Spring of 2018. My brief is to build on the successes of my predecessors, such as Robin Clutterbuck, and organise projects that promote knowledge and understanding of the campaign to both adults and young people. A small budget has been made available. In July seven such projects were approved by the Trustees. These are:

1. Offering bursaries to post-graduate students at Kings College Buckingham, and Birmingham and Wolverhampton Universities, who are studying the campaign for their dissertations or theses. So far, one application is being considered with more expected in the new year.
2. Offering small grants for community groups to organise activities based on local Gallipoli memorials. This has the support from War Memorials Trust who have helped publicise the opportunity. So far applications have been received from groups in Rochdale and Birmingham.

3. Subsidising places, on existing trips, for military museum volunteers to become Gallipoli 'champions.' This project has the support of the Army Museum Ogilvy Trust and its director Andrew Lloyd. The 'champions' agree to join the Gallipoli Association, produce leaflets for the museum, and write an article for *The Gallipolian*. So far applications have been received from volunteers at the Hereford Light infantry Museum and the Queen's Royal Lancers & Nottinghamshire Yeomanry Museum.

4. It was proposed to hold 'Gallipoli Day' at the Staffordshire Regiment Museum for adults and young people, using their popular trench, with re-enactors playing the part of soldiers at Gallipoli. Initially this was to take place during the 2019 Easter holidays but for a variety of reasons cannot now take place. I am now exploring alternative trenches in Birmingham, Suffolk and Kent.

5. Producing a film on the 29th Division march past and memorial with the Stretton on Dunsmore History Society and various other organisations. Good progress has been made, with the film company Stuart Kettell Videos being particularly helpful. I have also received excellent support from two historians of the march past, Tony Jordan and Chris Holland. The finished film, which is due to be completed in September 2019, will include contemporary photographs, commentaries and film of next year's commemoration.

6. Supporting an art competition, a trip to Gallipoli and the production of a memorial by students at Brune Park School, Gosport. Ten winners of the art competition will go on a four-day visit to Gallipoli. On their return they will act as leaders in the second part of the project which involves the production of a war memorial to Gosport Gallipolians.



Postcard from one of the Brune Park students

7. Supporting activity days on HMT *River Clyde*, for primary school pupils, at the Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum, Winchester, eventually producing a commemorative feature in the grounds. The first day, involving South Wonston Primary School, was a great success with the museum's education volunteer, Kayte West being a real star. A version of the project has been extended to local scout groups.

Impact: Trustees are concerned that all educational activities have, if possible, a measurable impact. By this they mean that when the project is designed an estimate is given as to the number of adults and young people who will learn more about Gallipoli. They also hope that any project will recruit new members. I would estimate that so far over 300 adults and 350 young people have been involved in new educational activities. An small number of new members have been recruited.



Teaching at Bristnall Hall Academy

Legacy: they also expect that the majority of projects have some sort of lasting legacy that will continue to highlight the campaign in the public mind. The projects involving museum “champions” and community activities around war memorials will result in literature being produced on Gallipoli. The projects involving Brune Park School and the Royal Hampshire Regiment Museum will result in new memorials. The film will be a lasting memorial in itself. Most of the current projects will result in articles for *The Gallipolitan* and new presentations to Association events.

Additional Activities.

In November I taught a number of lessons on Gallipoli at Bristnall Hall Academy, Oldbury, West Midlands, where I am a governor. I also taught history there for two years prior to retirement. I used teaching materials adapted from the Association website but with a focus on the 9th Battalion of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

The aim was also to try to secure the *Legacy110* Award for the school. I am confident we have achieved this but am still awaiting confirmation. The lessons went very well and the behaviour of the students was excellent. They were very interested in the Gallipoli campaign. 180 pupils were involved and all took material home to engage with their parents. At the end students were asked why we should remember Gallipoli. Here are some of their responses:

“Many, many soldiers died in battle there, yet they are often forgotten about because not many people know much about the campaign.” (Kate)

“It is important to honour the soldiers who fought in the campaign. Even if a hundred years ago we wouldn’t be where we are today without it.” (Keely)

“It shows that Britain and her Allies were not unbeatable but only human.” (Adam)

“Many men died so our lives can be as carefree and safe as they are today. Remembering them is a way of honouring them and thanking them for their heroic services.” (Harvey)

“It shows how a lack of planning and good strategy can change a war.” (Arjan)



The pupils prepare to re-enact the Helles landing with the teachers playing the Turks.

I have represented the Association at two conferences; organised by the Army Museum Ogilvy Trust and Far From the Western Front. I was well received at both and it was clear that the Association is well regarded. It is difficult to ascertain the impact but over a hundred delegates visited the stall at the two conferences. I made some very useful contacts and even managed to recruit new members. I have taken over with planning for the commemoration for the 29th Division march-past, now set for Sunday 10th



At the Far From the Western Front Conference



BHA students scrutinise medals belonging to an RWR soldier killed at Gallipoli.

March. I have even found a piper! I did attend the Armistice Day service at the local church. A number of people then went on to the memorial itself where a wreath was laid. Over 30 were present. I was asked to make a speech which was well received. There was a lot of enthusiasm for the March event and, again, the Gallipoli Association seems to be held in high regard.

Although I can claim no credit at all for the event, I have included one photo from the very successful ACF trip to Gallipoli (see page 25). Well done to all those involved.

If any members wish to know more about these projects I can be contacted via education@gallipoli-association.org. If any members have ideas for other educational projects they can also contact me. The Trustees have allocated the budget for 2018-19 but I am always available for advice or to contribute to projects.

GALLIPOLI ASSOCIATION BATTLEFIELD TOUR

Dates: 5 - 10 May, 2019

2019 marks the 104th year of the amphibious landing of British, Indian, Dominion and French troops on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The tragic campaign that followed lasted eight months and resulted in nearly half a million Allied and Turkish casualties. The story behind its eventual failure, of heart-breaking missed opportunities and the remarkable heroism of the troops involved is the basis of the tours.

Following previous tours of Gallipoli, in conjunction with Battle Honours Ltd, we are pleased to be offering identical trips for members and friends to visit the Peninsula in the company of fellow enthusiasts and authorities. 2019 will see us running concurrent walking and coach tours which will visit all the most important spots of Gallipoli. This comprehensive battlefield tour will not only cover the main areas of the campaign, at a relaxed pace, but also some of the seldom-visited spots not offered on other tour itineraries. We believe this tour is second to none, and with all the advantages of like-minded individuals, this intimate group will discover trench remains, old mule tracks, dried up gullies and the quiet beaches of this beautiful peninsula. Our tours are led by Gallipoli Association and Guild of Battlefield Guide members.

Our first trip back to the shores of the Gallipoli Peninsula in 2019 will take the form of an in-depth study of the entire campaign from the initial landings, through the Suvla campaign and up to the final withdrawal of troops. Gallipoli as a battlefield is quite simply unique, a 'must see' for those with a passion in the subject and a favourite destination for most of our guiding team. May's 6 day, 5-night tour will be based in Çannakale and will highlight all the incredible history the peninsula has to offer.

We are also considering a 'Hidden Gallipoli' tour for those who have been with us before, but would like to explore other areas of the battlefield. If you are interested, please let us know.

To register your interest please email: tours@gallipoli-association.org

THE ANZAC

Born in England, went to South Africa and served in the Boer War, joined the Australian army early in World War I and became one of the immortal band of Anzacs, the name given to the troops of the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. This was the early life of one Anzac.

After completion of training in Egypt the Anzacs were destined to make history at Gallipoli, in Turkey, where on April 25th, 1915, they, with regular UK troops and some Marines and French troops made epic landings against heavy opposition, with considerable losses on both sides, but the Allies did make their precarious landings.

The Anzacs made up in physique and enthusiasm for their short military training - the many headstones in the Anzac military cemeteries testify this.

Naturally, after it was over all wanted to forget about it, but, as usual, after the passage of years the wish to revisit the scene became a longing with many; in fact in some cases an obsession which cannot be understood by many of the present generation. Our Anzac was one of these. Over the years he had recalled the Gallipoli peninsula and longed to revisit his old gunpit - if it was still to be found. When he found a pilgrimage party being organized in England he joined enthusiastically, with his wife. This was fifty years on, and he was at this stage over eighty: a very gallant gentleman, living in England.

The pilgrimage party was primarily for UK veterans who had served there, but we welcomed our Anzac, and another one, making up representatives from all Divisions, including the Royal Naval Division, but without any French veterans. The party duly set off and the first contact with the old Mediterranean Expeditionary Force was a short call at Mudros, the bay where the whole of the Allied fleet assembled in the week before the Landing. From there we steamed towards the Dardanelles; near the entrance we stood on deck or wherever we might be for a minute, in memory of those who lost their lives at sea in the action. Up the Dardanelles by night and a stay of two days in Istanbul where a parade was held and a wreath laid at a Turkish war memorial.

Next down the Dardanelles to the Narrows, staying at Chanakkale on the Asian coast. In the morning we crossed to the Gallipoli peninsula near old X Beach and landed for the first parade, at the Turkish war memorial where a wreath was laid. Then down to Cape Helles where wreaths were laid at the British war memorial by the pilgrims as a whole, then by individual regiments, etc. After this we broke up for our individual sightseeing for those who had been in the Cape Helles area, roaming as far afield as Krithia, where we found their local war museum of great interest, seeing our equipment, etc., from the former enemy's point of view.

For our second day on the Peninsula we were first to visit Anzac Cove, then on to Suvla Bay for those who had served in these places.

The Anzac, a very friendly, wise and much-travelled Anzac, had in the intervening

years seen life in many parts of the world. Although serving in the Anzac forces in 1915 he had long left that continent. At this time of his life his main ambition was to revisit Anzac Cove, and especially his old gunpit, or traces of it. He was a philosopher and would discount the modern bustle of life by saying that we worry too much over trifles, such as just missing a bus, or if the electricity fails, or something transient, always ending with: 'It's not a matter of life and death.' Earlier that morning I had joined him in a walk around Chanakkale: he had said that he hadn't a care in the world and he enjoyed life to the full.

We crossed the Narrows to Eceabat, near the old Maidos, and went by coaches across to Anzac Cove. It was noticed by those in his coach that the Anzac became more and more excited as we approached. The guide with the first coach, in which was the Anzac, arranged for the stop to be a little beyond the Cove for traffic reasons. Friends noted that the Anzac worried over this; he would rather have stopped right at the Cove. But it was only a short walk back to the Cove and the party left the coach at the Anzac cemetery by the roadside. The Anzac stepped forward too but fell immediately.

Later on, when we had time to adjust ourselves to the situation, it was agreed that this was a fine way to go out. Up to that moment a long and happy life with no worries; now, attaining a half-century wish and being at last once again where he had spent an eventful and exciting time in his younger days. To us of course it was a tragedy, but for the Anzac, an octogenarian who knew that his circulation was such that he might expire at any moment, what more would he have asked?

I had known that at an Anzac pilgrimage two weeks earlier one of their veterans had fallen in almost exactly similar circumstances. We were accompanied by a most helpful representative of the War Graves Commission who had also been present at the previous tragedy. Because of this he was able to expedite the proceedings by arranging for burial that day at the Christian cemetery at Chanakkale. At sunset that day the whole of our party of veterans, one hundred strong, medals worn, marched with the Anzac for the last time, leaving him in company with his fellow-Anzac from the earlier pilgrimage.

I sometimes think of the quirk of fate, which, with the Anzac's exhortation: 'Why worry, it isn't a life and death matter' finally found in the excitement of the return to Anzac once again, that just missing the actual landing place at Anzac Cove, did prove to be a matter of life and death.

So passed a very fine gentleman, the Anzac.

- Major E. H. W. Banner, founder of the Association (this article appeared in the very first edition - Christmas 1969 - of *The Gallipolian*).

POSTSCRIPTS TO 'THE ANZAC'

In case any readers of the Christmas *Gallipolian* had any doubt about the authenticity of the account given, the Anzac quoted was Mr B W Bourne, a corporal in the 3rd

Artillery Brigade, 1st Australian Division at Anzac.

GE Dale (RFA, 59 Bde) of this Association writes:

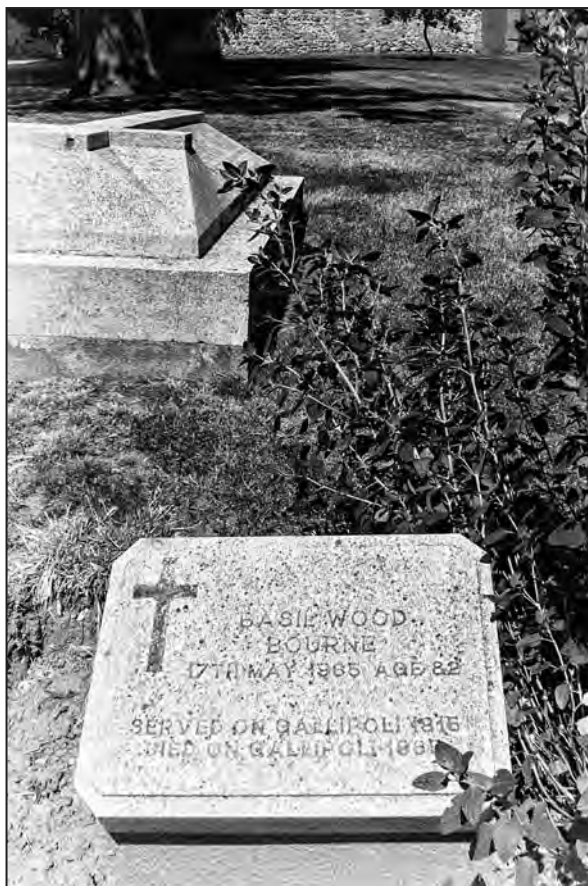
All 1965 Pilgrims will appreciate your tribute to the Old Anzac. Bourne occupied the next cabin to me and, before I met him, I was much impressed by the horsepower of my neighbour's door-slamming - quite bomb-like at night. Must be a giant, I thought. One day I caught him emerging with a bang, like a pantomime genie. Smilingly, I said, "So you're the chap who does all that doorbanging!" Bourne grinned and took my arm. "Come and have a go yourself." A sliding door, owing to its position; to move it needed all my strength. Tugging hard I got it within a foot of closing - but suddenly it became very loose and I produced an outsize bang which seemed to shake the ship. Well, we had a good laugh and I gave him best.

(Editor [1970]: May I add here that contrary to the idea of his being a giant he was of less than average height. Editor [2019]: He was 5' 9", or 175cm).

RE Morgan (7 Royal Welsh Fusiliers) writes:

How well I remember the tragic death of Mr Bourne, The Anzac, at Embarkation Pier Cemetery. Along with about eight Suvla boys I was in the jeep (later requisitioned for Mr Bourne's body) ready to set off for Green Hill Cemetery. After a quick conference and directions from Mr Niven (Commonwealth War Graves Commission) about a dozen of us set off on foot. Onward Pilgrims!

What progress to Green Hill Cemetery far away, to consummate the 50 years of yearning. In 1960 I had failed to get transport from Istanbul, but now half a century later I was to be with them. God! What memories. An eleven miles slog. Via Doloroso! So tired, but gently fanned by the zephyrs from the Aegean we made it. I can hear the farmers' dogs



barking. I can hear the frogs croaking; I can hear the silence with the cypresses and wild flowers painting the landscape. I can also see and hear. But no. (I was to be with them again in 1967, but this time the party was carried by tractor around Suvla). After taking photographs of my pals' graves in Green Hill Cemetery the party set off for Hill 10, Karakal Dag, Jephson's Post, Ghazi Baba, Suvla Point. Here again the party divided, but with five others including a lady we decided to trek back slowly along that terribly tiring Beach, via the Cut, now waist deep, to Lala Baba Cemetery where the tractor picked us up for our return to Anzac and thence by coach to Eceabat.

‘With heavy heart and moistened eye
 What is this land I now espy
 Grave of hope, Arbiter of Doom
 Destroyer of Youth, far too soon
 Thou evil finger pointing scorn
 At those who planned reverse at home
 Let the marbled stones speak out
 Your names are there: Evidence of Doubt
 But westward now our sails are set
 Eternal peace to you: Lest we forget!’

(Scribbled on Chocolate Hill, looking over the Salt Lake: May 1965).

(First published in *The Gallipolian*, Spring 1970).

Editor's notes:

Basil Wood Bourne was born at Guildford, Surrey, in 1883. He was living at ‘Stalmine’, Premaydena, on the Tasman Peninsula, Tasmania, an orchardist, when he enlisted in the Australian Imperial Force in August 1914 at the age of 31.

At that time he stated that he had previously served in a Field Artillery unit for 4 years. He was appointed corporal in the 3rd Field Artillery Brigade. He survived Gallipoli and the war, and was a lieutenant when he returned to Australia in 1918.

In November 1919 he married Isabella Gwendoline Waite, of Proserpine, Queensland, in Tasmania. There are no references to his death in contemporary Australian newspapers. This is probably because he appears to have left Australia in 1928, and by the time of his death in 1965 had apparently been living again in England ever since.

At age 82 he accompanied the 1965 pilgrimage to Gallipoli and died as he got off the bus at Embarkation Pier Cemetery. He is buried in the Çannakkale Consular Cemetery.

THEY WILL COME AGAIN

They will come again - the boys who fell -
Away on far Gallipoli.

They will come again with us to dwell,
From the land of the enemy over the sea

They will come again from the enemy's land -
The promise was made so long ago
They will come again that strong brave band,
From the graves of the slain, on the fields of the foe.

From the land of the enemy, far away,
When the "winds" convey them over the foam;
From the scenes of strife where their bodies lay,
On the "wings of the winds" their spirits come

When they come again, the boys who fell,
Back to the land of their nativity;
Though we know them not, and they cannot tell
How they fought and died at Gallipoli.

Though we know they died for their country's sake,
We cannot know till the "shadows flee,"
Till the "long night ends, and the morning breaks,"
How near they are to you and me.

When the morning dawns, and the light shines clear,
And forever dispels all mystery;
We'll learn to know that the ones so dear,
Are ours for time and eternity.

It matters not where our boys are slain,
Fell by disease or enemy powers,
To their native land they'll return again,
For time and eternity they ever are ours.

Drawn by the greatest power on earth,
The power that lifts to the heights above,
The power that holds from 'death to birth,'
We call it the mystic name of love.

We would not condemn those spirits brave,
To linger beneath a pitiless dome;
To hover for age, o'er a soldier's grave,
Or in lap of the enemy find a home.

Then what will we give them when they come;
They gave their all the evil to stem;
They suffered and died, for country and home,
What are we going to give to them?

This poem appeared in the *Lilydale Express* (Victoria, Australia),

5 May 1916, page 3

GERALD BRAZILL – A LIFE WELL LIVED

Kevin Parry

The early years

Gerald Brazill was born on 13 December 1876 in Belfast, Co Antrim, the son of John Brazill and Jane Wood.



Gerald Brazill

Gerald's father John was born in the parish of St Michael, Limerick, County Clare (now in the Republic of Ireland). He was a career soldier in the British Army (1860 – 1880), serving in Australia and New Zealand (the 2nd Maori War). Hand-written across his Service Record is 'Alias SHEEHAN'.

John and Jane had four children, John Benjamin (b 1874), Harriet (1875 – 1951), Gerald (1876 – 1951) and Algernon George (1879 – 1952).

In the 1881 census, Gerald (aged 4) was living with his family in Birkenhead, Lancashire.

Gerald is not found in the next census of 1891 - perhaps due to his military service.

Gerald joins the Army

Gerald was attested into the 15th Hussars (a British Army cavalry regiment) on 2nd January 1891, when he was just fourteen years and two months old.

He 'signed up' for twelve years, and his occupation on enlistment was given as 'Drummer.' Of interest in this regard is that his father John's occupation on his enlistment was given as 'Musician.'

Gerald served 'at home' for the next eight years, before being deployed to India on 21st September 1899, where he remained for the next three years.

He was discharged with the rank of corporal on 12th March 1903, having served twelve years and sixty-nine days.

At the outbreak of the First World War in 1914, Gerald re-enlisted in the British Army and attained the rank of sergeant in the 1/1st Welsh Horse – a cavalry regiment raised on the outbreak of hostilities.

Although Gerald's WWI service records do not appear to exist (a great many records were destroyed due to enemy action during World War Two), other records have survived, including medal records, court reports and contemporary newspaper reports.

In summary, Gerald's military service is as follows; 1891 – 1903 – 15th The King's Hussars (private, lance corporal, corporal-trumpeter), then on re-joining the army at the outbreak of WWI, he served in the 1/1st Welsh Horse 'B' Squadron (sergeant and drum major), the Royal Welsh Fusiliers (sergeant) and latterly the Labour Corps, attached to the Egyptian Labour Corps (2nd lieutenant).

Gerald gets married

On 20th September 1906, Gerald Brazill married Lydia Windle at the registry office in Halifax. Gerald is a 'Theatre Musician' and Lydia is employed as a 'Milliner.'

The couple lived in nearby streets in Halifax – Gerald in Clare Road and Lydia in Clare Street.

From the marriage certificate, we can see Lydia's father's name and occupation, but he didn't sign as a witness to the marriage – did he disapprove? Did he even attend? The witnesses are a James Charles Wilbert and 'J Holroyd.'

The Victoria Theatre is close by and it is likely that Gerald worked there. It was opened in 1901, when it was known as the Victoria Hall.

Gerald in 1911

By the time of the 1911 census, Gerald is employed as an 'Attendant' in the Staffordshire County Lunatic Asylum.

His wife Lydia, however, was living in Tynemouth, Northumberland with her two young children; Doris Lydia (aged four) and Gerald Algernon (aged one year nine months). Of interest, perhaps, is that the cover of the census page has 'Mr J W Whitelaw' crossed out and 'Mrs L Brazil' [sic] over-written.

Things go wrong for Gerald – Part 1

A report from the *Staffordshire Advertiser* on 2nd October 1914 shows Gerald is in trouble for abandoning his family to the parish. By this date, he is already serving with the 1st Welsh Horse.

Lydia and her two children were forced into the workhouse for a period of three months from late January to mid-April 1912, which cost the parish £6. Since leaving the workhouse, she had received a total of £32 10 shillings.

In March 1912 a warrant was issued and Gerald was found in Cardiff, arrested and brought before the court in Stafford.

Lydia told the court that Gerald had left her in October 1911, sending her money regularly up until early January 1912, but that she had not heard from him since.

Gerald expressed his willingness to support his wife and children and had a letter from a Cardiff solicitor, with an offer to pay 7 shillings and sixpence per week.

Gerald was sentenced to one month's hard labour.

Have things settled down?

In 1915, Gerald is with his regiment in Norfolk, engaged in home defence work.

A newspaper review in the *Diss Express* of 15 January 1915 reported 'A very successful Smoking Concert,' which was hosted and performed by the Welsh Horse, held in the Corn Hall. A bassoon solo by 'Trumpet Major Brazill deservedly gained an encore.'

Things go wrong for Gerald – Part 2

Not all Gerald's newspaper 'reviews' were as favourable however.

In early June 1915, the *Illustrated Police News* published a report of another court case, this time in Lambeth, London.

Trumpet Major Gerald Brazill was before the bench charged with bigamy.

On the 4th of February 1915, he had married Alice Maud Turner, 'his wife Lydia being then and now alive.'

On being read the warrant, Gerald had replied "I knew I was doing wrong, but I did it for her sake. She promised to stand by me. I am sorry for it now."

Questioned by the defence, the detective-sergeant in the case repeated Gerald's excellent previous military service and character.

Both 'wives' gave evidence – Lydia, at that time living in Stafford, stated that she and Gerald were married on November 17th 1906 in Halifax and that he had left her in October 1912, but that she had heard from him up until January 1913. Since then – nothing.

Alice, from Herne Hill, said that she was married to Gerald on the 4th February 1914 at the registry office in Hampstead, London.

Gerald was committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court (the Old Bailey), and was released on his own recognisances of £25.

On the 15th of June 1915, Gerald pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two days imprisonment, this time without hard labour.

What a mess

Another newspaper report at the time provides further details of Gerald's 'domestic

situation' and indicates there are children from the relationships he had with both women.

Gerald pleaded guilty to bigamy at his trial at the Old Bailey.

The facts were repeated at this hearing – that he had first married Lydia in 1906, leaving her and the children in 1912.

In 1914 he married Alice. He was arrested for deserting his family and served a short term of imprisonment. It was then that the bigamous marriage was discovered.

The newspaper article indicates what had happened in some detail.

Both women had claimed the 'separation allowance' and this had likely led to the offence of bigamy being uncovered.

The same detective-sergeant provided the Court with Gerald's previous military service (including in India) and further stated that until he re-joined the army in August 1914, he had been employed as a bandsman in various theatres and as an attendant in the Stafford asylum.

After his release from prison, Gerald had gone to live with his 'first wife' in Stafford, but then went to Diss, where he lived with Alice.

Alice gave evidence that she had first met Gerald in London in 1913, when he was a music hall musician. They lived together, but he didn't ever say that he was already married. After about three months of being married to Alice, she found out.

The first marriage was not a happy one, the court was told.

Alice, 'finding herself in trouble', (Counsel said), Gerald, for the 'purpose of saving her name, went through the ceremony of marriage with her.'

An excellent character reference was given to the court by Lieutenant Boyd-Harvey of the 1/1st Welsh Horse.

The judge then asked if the Regiment was fully equipped and ready to go to the front. Lieut Boyd-Harvey said that they were, and the judge gave his verdict.

"It is not worthwhile sending this man to gaol. The sentence will be a nominal one of two days, which will mean his immediate discharge."

The Judge then addressed Gerald, saying, "You must do the best you can for these two women, who are more or less dependent on you."

Gerald replied, "Thank you, my lord."

Lieutenant Boyd-Harvey

At this point it is worth looking at the life of Lieutenant John Julian Boyd-Harvey, (late of the Glamorgan Yeomanry). He appears to have joined the 1/1st Welsh Horse at its inception in 1914.

It can be seen from the press report above that he was certainly engaged on home duties at Diss, Norfolk, and was more than likely deployed with the regiment at Gallipoli in 1915.

At some point during the conflict, Boyd-Harvey joined the Royal Flying Corps and became a pilot.

Photographs of the Welsh Horse Regiment can be found at the *Welsh Horse Photo Album* website at <https://www.peoplescollection.wales/collections/536783>. Is Gerald among any of the group portraits?



Gerald Brazill's uniform is that of the 15th (The King's) Hussars for the end of the 19th Century. Who the individual in civilian dress is unknown, but could it be Gerald's brother John Benjamin?

His service records are not available – another casualty of the bombing during WW2, when many were destroyed.

J J Boyd-Harvey must have really had a taste for ‘thrills’, as by the 1939 census just prior to World War Two, he was living in Wimbledon (with his second wife) and is described as a ‘Manager and motorcycle competition driver.’ In the margin is a note that says ‘RAF Officer’ (the Royal Air Force was formed from the Royal Flying Corps in 1918). Boyd-Harvey was involved in motor sports (with some success) throughout the 1920s and 1930s.

Gerald in The Great War

The 1st Welsh Horse were dismounted in Diss and sent to Liverpool, where they embarked on the RMS *Olympic* and set off for the Dardanelles.

Gerald was transferred to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers when the Welsh Horse was disbanded.

From there, Gerald transferred to the Labour Corps, where he was made 2nd lieutenant, attached to the Egyptian Labour Corps.

A history of The Welsh Horse can be found on Wikipedia at https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Welsh_Horse_Yeomanry

Gerald's Bigamous marriage and a tragic loss

When musician Gerald married bookkeeper Alice Turner on 4th February 1914, he really made an effort to cover his tracks. He has added a middle name – ‘Fitzgerald’ and slightly amended his surname from ‘Brazill’ to ‘Brozel.’

He also took a couple of years off his age and gave his brother John Benjamin's name in place of his real father (John, who died in 1882).

On the 13th of November 1915 Alice and Gerald's daughter, Mary BRAZILL, was baptised in St Anne's church, Wandsworth, London. By that time Gerald was at Gallipoli with his regiment.

Mary died in March 1916. It is not known what happened to Alice from then on.

Lydia

In the 1939 Register, Lydia BRAZILL is shown as being ‘married’ and working as a housemaid, living alone in a flat in Birmingham. She died in 1949.

Gerald after the war

Gerald had an address in 1920 (on his medal card record) in Liverpool, but in the 1939 Register (erroneously transcribed as BRAZELL – but with the right date of birth) in Brighton, just three streets back from the seafront and next door to a playhouse. He is an ‘Orchestral Musician,’ with his marital status shown as ‘widowed.’

Gerald Brazill died in Nuneaton, Warwickshire in 1951, aged 74. He certainly lived an interesting life.

SHOT THROUGH THE HEART AND LIVED

Peter Clack

Few stories of Gallipoli rank with that of an English officer who was shot through the heart by a Turkish soldier, yet survived to fight again on the Western Front.

When the first soldiers landed at Suvla Bay on April 25, 1915, a young captain led a unit of fusiliers up the beach, after being cramped for days on board the troop carrier SS *Glasgow*.

Captain Patrick Waldegrave was 21 and going into action for the first time. Ten days later, he volunteered for a daring reconnaissance mission, for which the young soldier won the Military Cross. The award reads, "Capt. Waldegrave displayed great gallantry, coolness and initiative when making a daring reconnaissance, for which he volunteered. He obtained reliable information that affected the general situation, at a critical time, under very heavy artillery, machine-gun and rifle fire. He located and brought back information that was required as regards the position and disposition of the 4th Bn. the Worcester Regiment. Shortly after this act of gallantry, this officer was dangerously wounded, being shot through the heart." It was believed to have been a sniper's bullet which slammed through Captain Waldegrave's chest, passing through his body into his kitbag. The bullet was found there months later, along with a smashed periscope.

By rights, Captain Waldegrave should have died. Within an hour he was evacuated to a ship, a luxury few of the soldiers experienced when they were so badly wounded.



The bullet had passed through his heart but, to the astonishment of the medical team, it missed the vital arteries and went through his heart muscle.

He was saved, he later told his grandchildren, not by the surgeon's skill, but by the Anzacs on board who were mainly fatally wounded, as he was believed to be.

The Australians in the same casualty ward were cheerful and joking to the end. This, he said, gave him the determination to pull through. And he made a lifelong friend of one of those men, a Fred Hohnen.

Yesterday, Captain Waldegrave's grandson said it was time this long-forgotten story of courage was told.

David Mackilligin is economic and commercial counsellor for the British High Commission in Canberra, where he has been for four years.

He said his grandfather had joined the army at 16, and was later offered a commission with the Royal Ulster [sic - actually Munster - ed.] Fusiliers, one of the most renowned of the British army. After surviving Gallipoli, Captain Waldegrave was posted to the West Indies, where he married.

He was recalled to the European theatre and fought on the Western Front, where his luck almost ran out when he was again severely wounded, and gassed, leaving him with badly affected lungs for the rest of his life. He died in 1962.

Editor's notes:

This article appeared as 'Shot through the heart at Suvla Bay, and lived', in *The Canberra Times* (ACT, Australia), 25 April 1990, p2.

A number of inaccuracies stand out, beginning with the assertion that soldiers landed at Suvla Bay on 25 April 1915. I have been unable to find an SS *Glasgow* involved in the landing of troops, and Waldegrave died in 1961. I was able to confirm that he had been in the West Indies (apparently Trinidad), but it may be that he was also married in India in 1894.

I could find no officer named 'Patrick Waldegrave' to have served in WWI; I believe the officer was in fact Frederick Stanley Waldegrave. He seems to have had Indian Army service and was promoted a lieutenant in the Royal Munster Fusiliers from corporal in the Gordon Highlanders early in 1914. He appears also to have returned to the Gordon Highlanders in 1928 - a major, commanding the Inverness Depot. He attained the rank of colonel.

The account of Lieutenant Waldegrave's MC action given in the article apparently appeared in the *Kingston Gleaner* [Kingston, Jamaica]. The informant in this article - David Mackilligin - must have possessed a physical clipping, as this would not have been available online in 1990.

'The Battalion moved up to the front line again on May 4th... At 4.30pm on the 7th May the Battalion was ordered to advance as far as possible beyond the Worcesters and then entrench; seven men were killed and Lt. Waldegrave severely wounded, as well as forty other ranks...

During the night sufficient cover was made for protection against the hail of machine-gun fire, which swept over the troops all the next day... on the 9th... the Battalion was moved back to Gully Beach...' (*History of the Royal Munster Fusiliers 1861 to 1922*. Capt S McCance).

IN THE KNICK OF TIME

By an officer on the evacuation staff of the *River Clyde*

The headquarters of the evacuation staff at Helles was aboard the *River Clyde*, and I was one of the forward points for collecting parties that were to be evacuated. After I had reported that all parties that were supposed to come through my post had reported and were complete and correct, I telephoned this through to the officer in charge of the evacuation on board the *River Clyde*. He therefore ordered me to light the fuzes and come away myself. This I did without, I hope, undue haste, and when the half dozen or so of us assembled aboard the *River Clyde* we thought we had a moment or two to celebrate before we ourselves got on board the little boat that was to take us further out to sea.

There were one or two cases of what were called medical stores aboard and one looked as if it might contain champagne. So we burst it open pretty quickly, only to discover to our dismay that it was filled not with bottles of champagne but with women's knickers.

How they got to Gallipoli where only one woman ever made an appearance, nobody has yet explained. However, we had better luck with the next case and found it did contain champagne which we gulped down pretty rapidly, dressed the *River Clyde* with a few of the nurses' pants, had another go at the champagne and hurriedly left the ship. We had not gone very far when the fuzes we had lit did their work and all hell was let loose. However, there was nobody left on Gallipoli by this time on the last night and it was quite exhilarating to see the Turks shelling the empty beaches with all they could let off.

(Originally published in *The Gallipolian*, Spring 1970).

ARTICLES FOR THE GALLIPOLIAN

Articles and items of interest about any aspect of the Gallipoli campaign are always welcome. These should be submitted direct to the editor, preferably as an e-mail attachment, at the email address shown on the inside front cover. It is not always possible to feature articles in the issue following submission although where there is an element of topicality the editor will try to accommodate them, or refer them to colleagues responsible for the Association website. For those considering the submission of articles the editor can provide notes for the guidance of contributors on request.

Disclaimer

Readers are reminded that the observations and opinions expressed in articles and letters published in *The Gallipolian* are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, or those of the Association.

QUARTERMASTER'S STORES

The following items are available from the 'Stores'. All postage costs are shown separately from the cost of the item and the relevant amount indicated should be added when making the order.

Silk Ties – silk, non-crease ties in the Gallipoli Association colours - green bands for the land of Gallipoli, blue-grey for the waters of the Dardanelles, with narrow stripes of navy-blue and scarlet for the services - are available at £16.90 + postage [cost including postage - UK £17.83. Europe £20.10. World Zone 1 £20.70. World Zone 2 £20.90.]

Standard Ties - in Association colours are available at £7.70 + postage [Cost including postage - UK £8.63. Europe £10.90. World Zone 1 £11.50 World Zone 2 £11.70]

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Binders, which hold 6 copies of *The Gallipolitan* are available, finished in attractive simulated leather, maroon, with title blocked in gold on the spine. Price per binder is £6.45 plus postage [Cost with postage - UK £8.10. Europe £11.60. World Zone 1 £13.90. World Zone 2 £14.35]

We also feature a new item - an Association Scarf (see photograph on page 35 of the Winter 2017 edition of *The Gallipolitan*), pure wool, hand-made, in association colours measures approx. 140x 23cms. Price £28.00 + postage. [Cost including postage - UK £31.70. Europe £32.40. World Zone 1 £33.45. World Zone 2 £33.90.] As only a small stock is held, please check with the Quartermaster regarding availability'

Orders with payment, cheques and postal orders made out to 'The Gallipoli Association', to the Secretary, James Watson Smith Chelsea Lodge, Coopers Hill Lane, Englefield Green, Surrey TW20 0JX. E-Mail: events@gallipoli-association.org

LAST POST

It is with regret that the Association learnt of the deaths of the following members:

Gavin Roynon, Member 2652, March 2018.

Clifford Outhwaite, Member 2012, 26 November 2018.

David Gerald Davies, Member 1780, February 2019.

HIS PREMONITION OF DEATH.

Young Welsh Soldier's Fine Message To His Parents

A fine letter to his parents, pathetic but noble in its message, was penned by a Briton Ferry (West Wales) soldier of 18 years, Private Tom Arnold, on the eve his death. The circumstances in which it was written were somewhat remarkable. One night in the trenches in Gallipoli, the young soldier had a premonition that on the following day he would fall in battle, and he bade farewell his parents. The prophecy was fulfilled; the boy was found dead in a gully, to which he apparently crawled after he had been wounded.

The letter runs : My Dear Mam and Dad, — To-morrow I am to take part in a battle, and I have strange presentiment that something is going to happen. Therefore I consider it part of my honourable duty to write you a last letter. Should I lose my life in to-morrow's battle, my dear mam and dad, should I be one of those on the Roll of Honour. I want you to banish all grief or sorrow for me, and keep up your heads true British parents. Show those around you that you can share the sacrifice, and show that it is as much your duty as it is mine to face the enemy, and, if needs be, to sacrifice my life.

Dears, your boy cannot die a more glorious death than to fall with his face towards the enemy, and die with the secure consciousness that you, the parents he loves, will be proud him even in death. I shall die in peace. My only desire that you will just smile upon me and say "Well done!" — Your ever-loving old boy, Tom.

That the prophecy was only too well fulfilled by subsequent happenings is shown by a letter received on Monday by the father from Sergeant Orr at Gallipoli. Young Arnold had been reported wounded and missing; from the sergeant's letter it appears that he must have crawled to the shadow of the trees to die. The sergeant wrote: "We found him this morning in a small gully shaded by trees. We dug a grave, and laid him to rest, marking the place carefully so that we could identify it again." Before he enlisted Arnold, who was a clever actor and musician, was in the office of the Steel Smelter's Association at Neath.

Editor's notes

Three soldiers named Tom (or "T") Arnold are commemorated at Gallipoli. The article above does not specify which this may be.

T Arnold, 4377 1st Lancashire Fusiliers died 4 June 1915. Twelve Tree Copse cemetery.

Thomas F Arnold, 1980 1/8th Hampshires died 12 August 1915 aged 18. No known grave.

Thomas Richard Arnold, PLY693(S) RMLI died 9 May 1915. No known grave.



ACF group, Gallipoli. See Education Co-ordinator's Report, pages 3 - 8.



Antony Siese marching, Remembrance Day 2018 parade, Bermuda. See page 40.



President of the 6 Gurkha Rifles Association, Brigadier J A Anderson OBE and chairman of The Gurkha Museum, Martin Brooks, laying a wreath at Sari Bair, April 2011. See pages 47 - 49.



1/6th Gurkha Rifles at Sari Bair, Gallipoli 6 Aug 1915. Detail from the original painting depicting Major Allanson leading the assault on the crest of Hill Q. See pages 47 - 49.



Orders and medals of Colonel Cecil John Lyons Allanson CMG CIE DSO, recently acquired by the Gurkha Museum. See pages 47 - 49.

England Expects—



*and
England must not—and
will not be disappointed.*

**RECRUITS WANTED
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ROYAL NAVAL DIVISION**

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**AGE 18 TO 38 - MEAN CHEST MEASUREMENT 34 inches
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Recruiting poster for the Royal Naval Division. See article on Sterling Loop Larrabee, facing page.

A WEST POINTER ON GALLIPOLI: STERLING LOOP LARRABEE

David Isby

Sterling Loop Larrabee went off to war without his pistol, confiscated, pier-side, by His Majesty's Customs upon his arrival in Glasgow aboard the liner *Columbia* on 17 August 1914. The United States consul, to whom it had been returned, offered to ship it home. Disarmed, Larrabee left Glasgow for London. At the Langham Hotel, in search of a commission, he acquired application forms from the War Office, Admiralty and the Lancashire Territorial Force Association.

Larrabee was an American, born in 1889. A keen horseman — he had wanted to be a cavalryman — he came from a family that had some money (his mother lived in Washington DC's fashionable West End) and a record of military service. His father had been in the Union Army in the Civil War and a regular Army officer. Larrabee had been appointed to the US Military Academy at West Point, New York, as a member of the Class of 1912 but was dismissed after two years, he explained, for having failed mathematics. In 1911, Larrabee joined the Philippines Constabulary as a lieutenant, fighting bandits and insurgents and becoming a company commander.

On 29 September, asserting British nationality through a paternal grandfather born in Quebec, Larrabee was commissioned as a temporary sub-lieutenant in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (RNVR). He wrote to his mother from the Howe Battalion of the Royal Naval Division (RND).



West Point, 1909

Royal Naval Depot

Crystal Palace

October 10/14

Dear Mother.

As I wrote you the other day, I reported for duty here last Wednesday. Well, I have been working hard, and have been having a bully time since then.

They assigned me to "D" Co. of the 2nd Battalion right away, and I have charge of a platoon of 60 men in that company. There are 250 men and 6 officers to each company.

On Thursday, we had a route march of 10 miles. Friday we had drill and lectures on musketry instruction.

I already know about 20 of the officers and they seem to be an unusually nice lot. Most of them have had previous military experience and many are officers of The Naval Reserve (which is a naval militia) and some are regular Naval officers. This afternoon we have no duties; so about eight of us are going into London for dinner and the theater, after tea, which will be in a few minutes.

We just heard the news today that Antwerp has fallen. Some of the Naval Division left for Antwerp last Sunday and is supposed to be there now.

I am picking up the English drill, which is quite different from that in the U.S. Army, and rather more difficult. I think that in about two weeks I will be all right at it. Most of the sailors in my company are from Yorkshire, though some are from around London. They are a splendid lot of men, and very willing to learn, but some of them are pretty green, as they have only had a month's training.

You will be delighted to know that all officers and men are required to attend church, so tomorrow I will have to go.

I haven't had time yet to have my photograph taken.

The training allowed time for home-grown entertainment. Larrabee kept as a souvenir a programme from a concert. C Company of the Howe Battalion, on 26 November at 8 p.m., offered a variety performance with comic turns, athletic acts and songs, including such 1914 favourites as "Hold Your Hand Out, Naughty Boy."



Captioned Mudros, Lemnos. British Cook Tents & French Hospital Tents.

Larrabee received a letter from his friend from the constabulary, Captain Otto Preuss. A German – he had started his military career as a Death's Head Hussar – Preuss had also served in the Persian gendarmes and, reportedly, in German colonies, the Boxer rebellion, the Philippines, the Boer republics (after being turned down by the

British), the US Army, Venezuela and elsewhere. Preuss had come to visit Larrabee in Washington and ended up invited to Christmas dinner by Larrabee's mother. Unimpressed by Larrabee's rush to volunteer, he wrote a long, prescient, letter.

New York, 1 January 1915

"... I appreciate that you want to see some fighting but why did you not go to some gentlemanly war in the colonies? This is no war to go into for experience sake. Here either a man fights and dies for his own country or tries to establish a military record. Of course, it must be interesting to serve in such a swell outfit as the Naval Division and to fight alongside Turcos, Gurkhas, Hindis, Arabs, Senegalese and possibly Japs, but the novelty soon fades ..."

After training at Blandford Camp and elsewhere, the Howe Battalion (along with the 1st Field Ambulance and the 2nd Naval Brigade headquarters) embarked on 27 February at Avonmouth on HMT *Royal George*. They arrived in Egypt on 1 April. Larrabee was part of a detached half-battalion that deployed by rail as part of an RND force sent to defend the Suez Canal, occupying trenches around Kantara and Ismailia. He recorded that he took part in skirmishes there.

The Howe Battalion returned to Port Said and re-embarked in the *Royal George* on 8 April. The RND, on its transports, made a demonstration against Bulair to the north of the Gallipoli peninsula on 25 April before landing at V Beach a few days later. Larrabee had time to write a letter.

April 29/1915

Dear Mother,

Just received fourteen letters from you dated from Mar. 1 to April 4, including numerous very interesting clippings.



Captioned *Mudros, Lemnos - British Embarking.*

For the past three days we have been watching the battle of the Dardanelles from the ship, about a mile from shore. The show was magnificent. The most wonderful thing I have ever seen or ever will see. We are landing to-night to take part. There was enough shooting etc. to please everyone, & the Turks must be feeling pretty sick by now.

Also had a letter from Ken. He is now with his regiment in France. Had a letter from Dasha Allen, too.

Your letters were too splendid, dearie, and I was so glad they came to-day.

With all my love,

Sterling

Can't write any more now, as we are getting ready to disembark.

Twelve days after the Howe Battalion went ashore, his mother was sent a Western Union cablegram:

REGRET TO INFORM YOU SUB LIEUT S L LARRABEE RNVR
WOUNDED DURING OPERATIONS IN DARDANELLES ANY
FURTHER WILL BE AT ONCE COMMUNICATED
ADMIRALTY

4:35PM MAY 10th 15.

Followed by:

Alexandria May 12-15

SLIGHTLY WOUNDED DOING FINE CABLE
THREE HUNDRED THOMAS COOK ALEXANDRIA
LARRABEE

On 14 May, Larrabee was admitted to the Deaconess Hospital, Alexandria, his wound described as, "Left thigh. Slight. Good." He wrote home on crested stationary for The Howe Battalion, Second Royal Naval Brigade, Blandford, with the location struck through and replaced with:

May 19-1915

Deaconess Hospital-Alexandria

Dear, dear Mother

I am writing two letters this morning so that you will get one of them. They will both be just the same.

On May 6 I got a bullet in the thigh. The next day I was aboard a Hospital ship, arriving here on the 14th. My wound is not very serious and I expect to be all right in three weeks or a month at most.

Mrs. Collins (Col. Collins' wife) is nursing here in this hospital and she has been kindness itself to me, so you see I am getting on. Sparling and Stacey, of my Co.,

were also shot, but Stacey is all right now and has returned to Gallipoli.

The money I cabled for has arrived, but not at Thos. Cook (as I requested) but at Banque Belge. Thank you a thousand times. At least I think the money has arrived, as I received a notice from the Banque Belge that there was a remittance for me. Mrs. Collins is going to see about it to-day. I wired as I had lost all clothing in the scrap. Now I will be able to get some more things.

You must excuse this awful writing, but I can't write lying down.

Yours, with all my love,

Sterling

On 25 June, Larrabee was evacuated to England on HMT *Glengorm Castle* and on 10 July was admitted to the RN Hospital Haslar, Gosport. On 13 July he received his Provisional Hurt certificate. While there, he received a letter – apparently forwarded via Alexandria – from Gallipoli.



Captioned Naval Landing Party Coming to Kum Kaleh, Dardanelles

Gallipoli Pen.

7 May 1915

To: Lieut S.L. Larrabee:

Dear Larrabee –

I was very sorry that you were wounded the very day you and I had been before the C.O. in reference to the unfortunate occurrence when I placed you under



Royal Field
artillery,
1916

temporary arrest on the night of 5-6 May.

Your going away prevented me from telling you as I wished to that your full explanations to Major Stewart of the matters I had considered curious were perfectly satisfactory and that I withdrew any accusation against you whatsoever.

Yours Sincerely,

P.H. Edwards, Lieut.

Witness: E.G. Boissier, Lt. Com., Howe Battalion.

On 25 August, Larrabee was 're-surveyed' and considered fit for active service. He returned from sick leave on 31 August, reported to the 2nd Reserve Battalion at Blandford Camp and was soon on his way back to Gallipoli. While Larrabee later stated he had returned to the Howe Battalion in late July and took part in the battles on 6-7 and 21 August, records show that he returned to Gallipoli and the Howe Battalion on 21 September.

The battalion had suffered heavy losses in his absence, especially in the British attack on 4-8 June. Casualties, sickness and transfers to sea duty meant that few who had trained with Larrabee at the Crystal Palace and Blandford remained. His letters presented his mother with a cheerful picture of life out of the line on Gallipoli.

Gallipoli Oct 26 1915

Dear Mother,

Your welcome letter of Sept. 23 (with some interesting clippings about Dasha Allan etc.) ... I know Dasha Allan's fiancé, as he was a classmate of mine at West Point.

This last week has been the best I've had since I came back to Gallipoli. Have been writing every single day. Yesterday I had lunch at the 1st Field Ambulance along with a crowd of surgeons whom I knew a year ago, and to-day I had tea with the 2nd Field Company of Engineers.

This evening we had a dinner party with the adjutant (Parkes) our Doctor and the Maxim gun officer. It was some dinner, as Dean (one of my "D" Co. Officers) has just returned from Imbros with a lot of new stores and some Greek wine from the Isle of Samos.

To-morrow the battalion goes up for its week in the trenches. We are gradually getting our new winter quarters completed, and we expect to be very comfortable during the cold weather.

There isn't very much news. Gen Sir Ian Hamilton been relieved by Gen. Sir Charles Monro, who arrives in a day or two. We continue to hear very good news from France and Russia.

I meet old friends every day. I saw Chapman and Patterson, [?] two officers I came out with on the *Royal George* in March.

Sunday Nov 21/15

Dear Mother.

I finished my new dug-out to-day and moved in just before dark. It is a mighty good dug-out, the best I've ever had.

Went to chapel this morning, but it was so cold that the padre only carried on for 10 minutes. This is the coldest day we've had.

Well, I won't write you any more as I wrote you so much yesterday.

Yours, with all my love, Sterling

P.S. Do you have to pay postage on those letters without stamps?

On 28 November, Larrabee arrived at the Machine Gun School at Mudros West for a one-month course. On his return, as the new battalion machine gun officer, he recorded the names, next of kin, civilian occupations and home addresses of his men.

Larrabee wrote that he was "present the last day of the evacuation" from Gallipoli in January 1916. On 1 February 1916, Larrabee was evacuated to England from No. 27 General Hospital on Mudros on board the hospital ship *Rewa*, with a diagnosis of neurasthenia. He was admitted to Portland Hospital on 29 February and, examined on 6 March, found fit and sent to the RND Depot at Blandford Camp. His service at Gallipoli earned him a Mention in Dispatches by General Sir Charles Monro KCB.

Earlier in 1916, the Admiralty had informed the War Office that Larrabee could not be spared for transfer to the Royal Field Artillery (presumably he had applied). While not fully trained as an artilleryman, his equine skills may have been considered useful. His mother eventually received another cable.

BLANDFORD 17 JUN

TRANSFERRED ARTILLERY PLEASE CABLE TWO HUNDRED QUICKLY

LARRABEE

As a lieutenant in the RFA, Larrabee fought on the Western Front and trained US Army artillerymen, then transferred to the US Army. After the war, he devoted himself to horses and fox-hunting in Virginia. A reserve officer, he volunteered to return to US Army active duty in the Second World War. After service as army attaché in South Africa, Yugoslavia and Greece, he was awarded the Legion of Merit and retired as a colonel postwar.



Endnotes

- 1 Letter from US Consul Glasgow, 29 August 1914. All documents unless indicated otherwise are from Sterling Loop Larrabee papers, US Army Heritage and Education Center, Carlisle Barracks, Box 2 of 2. Arrival from: Ancestry UK, Incoming Passenger Lists, 1878-1960.
- 2 Larrabee papers
- 3 Memo, Sterling Larrabee. n.d., (biographical statement, 1941, revised 1947)
- 4 Memo. Larrabee's own statements in his severely (but artfully) pared-down set of papers are the only source for the reason for his dismissal.
- 5 Robert A. Fulton, *Moroland, The History of Uncle Sam and the Moros*, Bend OR: 2009, Tunallo Creek Press, pp 395-96.
- 6 RND Service Record, Sterling Loop Larrabee, ADM 339/3-1009, (National Archives UK)
- 7 "From the start, the Division attracted an interesting and unusual officer corps," Christopher Page, Command in the Royal Naval Division, 1999: Stapleford Kent, Spellmount, p. viii.
- 8 While he had visited Britain before the war, Larrabee appears to have considered Geordies from Northumberland and Durham (many from the Tyneside Division, RNVR) as Yorkshiremen. Of 236 men of the Howe Battalion who died in 1915, 14 gave home locations in Yorkshire, 18 in Greater London. *Royal Naval Division Roll of Honour: Howe Battalion*, London: May 1996, Dept of Printed Books, IWM. This suggests Howe had a smaller Yorkshire contingent than the RND overall. Thomas S. Muirhead, *Royal Naval Division Roll of Honour – Naval Battalions – Observations and Analyses, R.N.D.* RND, n.18, Sept 2001, pp 1772-1792, p 1781.
- 9 Larrabee is shown in C Company, Howe Battalion Officers' Mess Bills, 8 January 1915, in Sub. Lt. John Norman RNVR papers, <http://www.jackclegg.com/Norman003.htm>
- 10 Larrabee papers. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cJhFivOZYWo>
- 11 Fulton, p 396.
- 12 Larrabee papers
- 13 The reported Turkish attack proved to be a mounted patrol. The Howe Battalion suffered no fatal casualties in Egypt in April 1915. Roll of Honour.
- 14 Daria "Dasha" Allen was the daughter of US Army Major Henry T. Allen (who organized the Philippine Constabulary) and sister of Larrabee's West Point classmate Henry Allen Jr. (who graduated). She was a devoted polo player.
- 15 ADM 339/3-1009
- 16 An American, the former Clara Parks, thumb-tack trust heiress. Her marriage to Collins -- after his well-publicized divorce from Natalie Schenck, another American heiress -- received much press coverage. Walter Lord, *The Good Years*, from 1900 to the First World War, New York: 2017, Routledge, p 265.
- 17 Lt. Col. Charles Glen Collins, RM, then-commanding officer of the Howe Battalion, was the only battalion commanding officer in the brigade to come through the 4 June battle. ADM 196/100/5. A former captain in the Cameron Highlanders, he served in Kitchener's Fighting Scouts in the Boer War and in the Hood Battalion at Antwerp. Resigning his commission in 1916, he married Amelia Ramsey Wheeler, divorced in 1918, and was later extradited from the US to India to face criminal prosecution.
- 18 Major Sydney J. Sparling, killed in action in the 4 June battle. He was an Indian Army officer (57th Rifles) who accepted a temporary appointment with the Royal Marines while on medical home leave.
- 19 Sub-Lieutenant Frank Wendell Stacey, RNVR, KIA in the actions of 4 June. ADM 339/3/1568.
- 20 ADM 339/3-1009
- 21 Major Charles Kennedy-Craufurd-Stuart, second in command of the Howe Battalion. An Indian Army officer with a temporary Royal Marines commission, he later commanded the Hood Battalion on Gallipoli, awarded the DSO and MiD. Thanks to the contributors to the Great War Forum who identified him from this reference.
- 22 Patrick Harrington Edwards served in C Coy. Remained in Howe Battalion, rising to lieutenant commander, until he was severely wounded in Nov 1916. Volunteered to lead a storming

- party in the Zeebrugge raid. Volunteered for Russia. Awarded the DSO and Bar. ADM 339/3/546
- 23 Lt. Cdr. Ernest Galrice Boissier, RNVR, awarded DSC following the May fighting. ADM 339/3/546.
- 24 ADM 339/3-1009
- 25 Memo
- 26 ADM 339/3-1009
- 27 Lieutenant Joseph W Viner, US Army
- 28 "While in rest camp, 'dining' with some other unit was a frequent practice and very popular". Geoffrey Sparrow & J.N. MacBean Ross, *On Four Fronts With the Royal Naval Division*, n.p.: 2011, Leonaur, p. 89.
- 29 Temporary Lieutenant Kenneth Edward Parkes, ADM 339/3/1279.
- 30 Surgeon Lieutenant Edward Gustave Schlesinger, OBE MiD Croix de Guerre (France) MB FRCS served with the Howe Bn. until 1917, replacing Charles Anderson, invalided home earlier in the month. Thanks to contributors to the Great War Forum who identified him from this reference.
- 31 Sub-Lieutenant Les Edwin Hare Dean, ADM 339/3/474
- 32 "The news of the great push at Loos has been announced to the troops. From all sides came the sound of singing and cheering", Sparrow & Ross, p 82.
- 33 Names indistinct in original. The names could refer to several RND officers but do not fit with any known to have sailed on the Royal George.
- 34 "The cold is going to be a worse enemy than the Turks", 21 November entry, "The Diary of James Starkie Sapper 1440 No 2 Field Company Royal Naval Division Engineers", R.N.D. Royal Naval Division, n. 23, December 2002, pp. 2354-2390, p 2384.
- 35 ADM 339/3-1009
- 36 Larrabee papers
- 37 Memo
- 38 Sterling Loop Larrabee, RNVR Record of Service, ADM 337/117/478
- 39 London Gazette, 13 July 1916, Supplement, p. 6953
- 40 ADM 337/117/478
- 41 London Gazette, 12 June 1916
- 42 Memo

Editor's note:

The author, David Isby, came across the papers of Colonel Stirling Loop Larrabee in the US Army's historical archive at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. Larrabee attended the US Military Academy at West Point (though he did not graduate) and served in both World Wars. In 1914 he joined the Royal Naval Division and went to Gallipoli with them. He had apparently disposed of most of his papers before donating them.

REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE IN BERMUDA

Thank you to member Antony Siese for the photograph on page 25 of the 2018 Remembrance Day parade in Bermuda, where he will soon be lecturing to a school on the subject of Gallipoli.

Many probably do not know about the bravery of one particular Scottish seaman at Gallipoli who was honoured in a ceremony in Bermuda. This is George Samson from Carnoustie, who was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions during the V Beach landings from the SS *River Clyde*. Samson was buried in Bermuda in 1923 after dying while serving on a merchant ship.

See article *Last of the Six? George Samson's Life of Adventure* : Spring 2017 *Gallipollian*.

HOW PTE. RAS. HANSEN DIED

Killed Trying To Save Another.

Detail of the circumstances attending the death in Gallipoli of Pte Ras. Hansen, well known in Ballarat as an employee at Snow's Emporium, are contained in a letter by Staff-Sergt John H. Walker, of the A.A.M.C. to his father, Mr J.T. Walker, furniture warehouseman of Sturt street.



Trooper Rasmus Robinson HANSEN, 941, 3rd Light Horse Field Ambulance, AIF.
Killed in action 7 August 1915, aged 22.

“Almost immediately upon the arrival of the corps in the Peninsula, we marched out,” writes Sergt. Walker, “and found the infantry had been doing great work. During the heavy fighting two of the stretcher bearers, including poor Ras. Hansen, were killed and numbers of others more or less seriously injured. I was very sorry to hear of Ras’ death, as were also all who knew him, he being one of the finest fellows about. He was killed doing his best to help a wounded man - just what one would expect of him. Our bearers had a great deal of work to do that day - 7th August - and had to carry the wounded down a gully absolutely swept with bursting shrapnel. But they kept at it without flinching from dusk the night previously till the Sunday without more than a biscuit and no rest. There were places where they had to rush down with their stretchers, and in one of these one of our party was hit with a number of others. Poor Ras rushed out from where he was taking shelter to help him, and received the full force of another exploding shell. He was killed instantaneously, being hit in the neck and head; but he died gloriously in an endeavor to save his mate’s life - a hero’s death.”
(*Ballarat Courier* (Victoria, Australia) 14 October 1915 p4).

HOW JOHN KIRBY DIED

There has ever been much speculation in Dorrigo as to how Sergeant-Major John Kirby died, but up to a week or so ago the true facts surrounding the case were never known locally. However, there is now in town a returned soldier named Mr. Palmer who was in John's platoon on Gallipoli, and he says that the late Lieutenant Kirby (John had his commission at the time) met his death on the Sunday following the landing. Lieut. Kirby was spiking an enemy gun when he was mortally wounded. The lieutenant's death caused a deep gloom to fall upon his men, as he was such a popular officer with them.

We are glad to be in a position to give this matter publicity, as the late John Kirby was a man in whom everyone locally took a keen interest. His actions while in our midst stamped him as a man of the first water, and the news we have received concerning his last act on this earth shows that he died a man — as only a man, in the circumstances, could die. May the remains of our late friend rest in peace and honor in the country where lie the bones of so many of our brave lads. (*Don Dorrigo Gazette and Guy Fawkes Advocate* (NSW) 15 June 1918 p2).



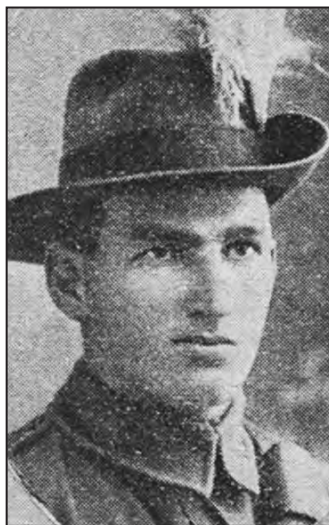
904 Company Sergeant-Major John Hopkins Kirby, 1st Battalion AIF.
Born Swindon, Wiltshire, England.

Served 10 years 2nd (Hertfordshire) Volunteer Battalion and Bedfordshire Regiment. (4 years lieutenant and quartermaster). Killed in action (officially) 2nd May 1915, but most likely 25th April 1915.
No known grave.

Brother, 2nd Lieutenant Charles Parker Kirby, 33rd Battalion AIF, died of wounds Sunday, February 18, 1917, buried in Boulogne Eastern Cemetery, France.

HOW CORPORAL GRAFFUNDER DIED

Speaking at the recruiting meeting at the Town Hall on Saturday evening Shoesmith Henman, who recently returned from Egypt, said he had heard rumours, since returning, about Corporal Graffunder being a spy, but he could tell them that was absolutely untrue and further, it took five bullets to kill him. He had the muscles of his arm blown away and was ordered by the Red Cross orderly to go back and have his arm dressed. He replied "No, I am good enough for a few of the : — 's yet," and as he turned round a machine gun got him and he fell with four bullets in the chest.



Corporal A C J Graffunder, 2nd Light Horse Regiment AIF

Major Graham, Corporal Graffunder and Arthur (Sarah) Anderson from Ayr lie buried side by side on the Gallipoli peninsula - three of the best, said the speaker; and there never was a more loyal man to serve his King and country than Corporal Graffunder. He was a soldier from start to finish, hard on the men under him at times — an officer had to be hard to make the men obey him — but never favouring one set of men more than another. He was an honest straightforward man and no one who had fought as he had done could be accused of being a spy. (Applause). (*Daily Mercury* (Mackay, Queensland) Monday 25 October 1915 p7).

The Lord Gave The Lord Taketh Away Again

Epitaph, 462 Corporal Albert Christopher Julius GRAFFUNDER (MiD), 2nd Light Horse Regiment AIF
Killed in action 14 May 1915. Quinn's Post Cemetery.

KILKENNY BOYS AT GALLIPOLI

Letter from Cpl P Staunton to *Kilkenny People* newspaper, 1915 (courtesy Tom Burnell)

Dear Mr Keane

I take the liberty of writing to you to let you know if you would be so kind as to spare a space in your valuable paper for this letter. Being an old reader of the “Kilkenny People” I will try and let the readers at home know, through you, of the doings of the “People’s” readers abroad. I have been through the landing on the 6th August, 1915, at Suvla Bay, where, I am sorry to say, we lost a few Kilkenny boys. From there we found ourselves on the Serbian frontier facing the Germans, Bulgars, Austrians and Turks. We, however gave them to understand that they were “up against” Irishmen, much to their surprise; but they came on in overwhelming numbers. Still there was no Kilkennyman coming down from the mountains wounded, but unfortunately the frost and snow proved too masterful for a couple of Kilkenny lads, who had got frost-bitten, but they proved themselves men and passed on with a smile on their lips to hospital, and as they passed you could hear their “pass-word”—“Up the Black and Amber!” To mention the names of these brave lads—I only think it will serve to gather them some praise, which they highly deserve.

Their names are; — John Sheridan, “Dido” Kenny, as we used to call him, from Walkin Street Upper, and the renowned “Cock” Byrne’s brother James, who got wounded through the thigh. All belong to the Connaught Rangers. Well, the “Kilkenny People” has been a great welcome to us, Kilkenny boys, both in Gallipoli and in the Balkans, and every post that comes the cry is. “Did you get the ‘People?’” Our division is the 10th Irish Division, which bore the brunt at the landing and saved the day in Serbia, and which all the papers gave praise to on that memorable retreat. We are now nine months on active service, and don’t expect to get leave before we finish the Huns up out here. I may mention that the boys from the city and county have been very lucky out here, thank God.

I also may mention the names of the heroes who fell at Suvla Bay, viz., Sergeant Michael O’Keeffe, late of Greensbridge, and Privates K. Meehan, of Garden Row, and W. O’Connell, from Maudlin Street. Their memory is still fresh with us, and I trust that the people at home offer up a prayer for their happy repose. The English papers may boast of the deeds of valour performed by the Australian forces, but let them compare them with the magnificent dash of the Irish regiments and see who comes first. I think I will draw this letter to a close by saying that all the boys from city and county are “in the pink, ” and all hope to be back again soon, with the help of God. I enclose a few verses I composed by the help of Private J. Hogan, 3909, of the 4th Battalion, on thinking of the landing at Suvla Bay. I conclude by sending my best wishes for the success of your valuable paper. —I am, sir, yours sincerely. No 78, Corporal P. Staunton. A Company, 5th Royal Irish regiment, 10th Division, Salonika Field Force.

The Landing at Suvla Bay

'Twas on the 6th of August, on a bright and sunny day.
 We landed at the Dardanelles, some thousands of miles away.
 We knew not what before us lay, but we hear the shot and shell.
 And many an Irish soldier there that day now lives no more to tell.
 It was a bright and glorious day which we will never forget.
 When the Connaughts and the 5th Royal Irish went through that Vale of Death.
 It was death by fire, and water going through the Suvla tide.
 But those gallant sons of Erin their enemy defied!
 I will raise a glass, filled to the brim, of Smithwick's sparkling ale,
 and drink to the health of the boys that live who fought and did not quail.
 And whenever I hear the sound of guns and the clamour of war and din.
 I never will forget Gallipoli and the struggle I there was in.'

LIKE OLD TIMES

Bullets Fly at Gallipoli Brigand Killed

('Sun' Special)

London, Monday.

Colonel Hughes, who is entering a nursing home for a slight operation as a result of a motor cycle fall on Gallipoli, will take up in March the supervision of permanent staffs of all the war graves in the Near East, comprising those of Gallipoli. Egypt, Palestine, Persia, and Irak.

He informed 'The Sun' representative that he had received a message from the officer in charge of the graves at Gallipoli that three Turks employed as gardeners at the Suvla cemeteries celebrated Christmas by brigandage.

They raided a house in the village of Boghali, near Suvla, stole 800 piastres, and threw a Turk and his wife down a thirty feet well. The woman is dead and the man dying from their injuries.

The Commission's staff joined the native police, and captured two. The third escaped, and afterwards returned at night time, and tried to bribe a native gardener to conceal him in the house. Subsequently he menaced him at the revolver's point.

The brigand fled to the hills at the approach of his pursuers, and was killed after an exchange of shots at a mile range. The incident illustrates the excitements of grave-tending, and also the co-operation between British and Turkish officials, added Colonel Hughes.

(*Newcastle Sun* (NSW), Tuesday 30 December 1924, page 1).

DEAD BROTHERS' PORTRAITS FOUND IN MAN'S CLOTHES

Men Killed On Gallipoli

Last night a man visited the Salvation Army military rooms in Flinders lane and occupied a bed. He was found dead in his room this morning. In his pocket were several documents which indicated that he was a returned soldier. There was also a soldier's application for a conditional purchase lease of a farm allotment in the name of Patrick Michael Kerrigan, of Warburton, in which it was stated that the applicant was 44 years of age, a widower with three children.

In one of the dead man's pockets was a portrait of two soldiers. These were recognised by Constable Pawley, of Russell street, as Launcelot and Daryl Blannin Ferguson, brothers, who were members of Pawley's platoon at the historic landing on Gallipoli. Launcelot was killed beside Pawley, and Daryl died a month later. Constable Pawley himself received many wounds, including a bayonet thrust, which eventually led to his discharge from the army. Private Daryl G. Blannin Ferguson was killed in action in Gallipoli on May 8. 1915; Private Launcelot S. Blannin Ferguson on April 26, 1915, the day after the landing; while a third brother, A. R. Blannin Ferguson, is still on active service. (*Herald* (Melbourne) 13 May 1918 pr.

567 Patrick Michael Kerrigan, ex-Sergeant-Major, 1st Light Horse Field Ambulance, A.I.F., died 13 May 1918.

KERRIGAN. — On the 13th May, Patrick Michael, ex-Sergeant-Major 1st L.H.F.A. (Australian Imperial Force), fifth eldest son of the late John Kerrigan (Tara Estate, Launching Place; many years Treasury) Father of William (active service abroad), Mable and Jack; husband of late Jessie (died Easter Saturday, 1917); brother of Edward, Joseph, Augustus (invalided home from Belgium), Christopher, Mrs. McGarvin and Mrs. McNamara; brother-in-law of C. E. McNamara (invalided home from France), Lieutenant L. Anderson (killed Lone Pine, Gallipoli), Corporal E. Ewart (killed in France), Sergeant E. L. Morley (killed in France), Gunner H. V. Ewart (active service abroad); uncle of Corporal J McGarvin (active service abroad), and Mattie McGarvin (Navy). Life Governor Melbourne, Alfred, and Homeopathic Hospitals. Late Manager John Sharp and Sons and D. Vaughan and Sons; late Assistant Secretary Returned Soldiers. May his soul rest in peace. Interred privately by John Daley, Undertaker, in the family grave, Melbourne General Cemetery, 15th May, 1918. (*Tribune* (Melbourne), 30 May 1918 page 5).

MEMORY-HAUNTED SOLDIER FINDS PEACE IN GALLIPOLI

Signaller F. Pratt, a New South Wales soldier, who was reported killed in action at the Dardanelles last week, had no desire to return from Gallipoli alive.

He was for many years a resident of Wellington, N.S.W. His wife, daughter of Mrs. James Murphy, Wellington, died at Cowra about two years ago under most distressing circumstances. Mrs. Pratt was sitting darning by the fireside with her husband, who was cleaning a pea rifle which he thought to be unloaded. At his wife's request Mr.

Pratt was about to replace a lid on a cooking utensil when the rifle went off, the bullet entering Mrs Pratt's temple, and she died instantly. Pratt was devoted to his wife, and had never been able to shake off the memory of the sad occurrence. He informed his relatives prior to his departure for the front that he had no wish to return. At the time of enlisting he was guard on the New South Wales railways. His parents live at Woodstock. (*Echuca and Moama Advertiser and Farmers' Gazette* (Victoria) 6 July 1915 page 4).



Private F Pratt

Another hero to fall at Gallipoli was Private F. Pratt, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Pratt, of Woodstock. Prior to enlisting deceased was a railway official, and was also one of the finest footballers and all-round athletes this district has produced. Poor Fred was a fine manly young fellow, but an unfortunate accident, whereby it will be remembered his young wife was fatally shot some little time back through a loaded rifle being knocked over, saddened his life considerably. Prior to leaving for the front he told some of his comrades that he knew he would never come back again — a prophecy which proved only too true. (*Cowra Free Press* (NSW), 23 June 1915 page 2).

Editor's note:

1166 Private Frederic Charles Pratt, 3rd Battalion AIF. Killed in action 19 May 1915, aged 29. Buried in 4th Battalion Parade Ground cemetery. The majority of Australian soldiers who were killed during the great Turkish attack of 19 May had exposed themselves by climbing onto their trench parapet in order to get a better shot.

GALLIPOLI HERO'S MEDALS AND PAPERS ACQUIRED

19 March 2019

Gallipoli Hero's Medals and Papers Acquired by the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles Regimental Association for The Gurkha Museum

The Gurkha Museum is delighted to announce that it has received the medals and some personal papers of Colonel Cecil John Lyons Allanson CMG CIE DSO, late of the 6th Gurkha Rifles, thanks to the generosity of the 6th Queen Elizabeth's Own Gurkha Rifles Regimental Association and Trust. This follows on from their assistance in the purchase of the medals of Major General 'Punch' Cowan CB CBE DSO MC, Commander of 17 Gurkha Division during the Burma Campaign.

Major Allanson commanded 1/6 Gurkha Rifles at Gallipoli in 1915 where they gained immortal fame for the action at Sari Bair: they were the only troops in the whole

campaign to reach and hold the crest line and look down on the straits which were the ultimate objective.

Allanson himself was severely wounded, as was every British officer in the 1/6 Gurkha Rifles who had not been killed, except for the Medical Officer, Capt Phipson. Having captured the crest line the battalion came under heavy fire, sadly from allied artillery, and were forced to withdraw under command of Subedar-Major Gambirsing Pun, who spoke no English and who relied on Capt Phipson to interpret for him.

The battalion withdrew in good order and Gambirsing was awarded the MC for his leadership and gallantry. Total casualties amounted to 204 all ranks in three days fighting, of whom 45 were killed, three of them British officers. Allanson and Phipson were awarded the DSO.



Major Allanson

From 28 August to 10 September the battalion was engaged in the usual routine of trench warfare but, after a spell of 34 days fighting, were relieved by the 19th Australian Infantry Battalion and sent into reserve.

On 12 December battalion commanders were told in great secrecy that it was intended to evacuate the Anzac and Suvla areas of the peninsula. At 4pm on the 21st the 1/6 GR left Mudros on S.S. *Knight Templar* and arrived in Alexandria on Christmas Eve.

The 6GR were subsequently awarded the Battle Honours “Helles”, “Suvla”, “Krithia”, “Gallipoli 1915”, and “Sari Bair.” This latter award appears in a place of honour at the top of the cipher of the Regiment’s cross-belt plate as well as on the drums of the pipe-band (see inset on page 26).

President of the 6GR Association, Brigadier J A Anderson OBE, noted that: “It is vital that the history of all our regiments is preserved for posterity, and it is the very least we can do to honour all those who made so many sacrifices for this country. The Gurkha Museum, as the repository for our legacy, is the right place for this and merits the support of all.”

Martin Brooks, chairman of The Gurkha Museum commented: “We are extremely grateful to the 6th Gurkha Regimental Association for securing these fine medals for us all to share them with the public as part of the wider collection of the Brigade of Gurkhas held at the Gurkha Museum.”

Editor’s note:

The Gurkha Museum Trust, “The Gurkha Museum” is a registered charity based in Winchester and is the principal source of history for the Brigade of Gurkhas. The Gurkha Museum is open to the public and tells the story of over 200 years of Gurkha service to the British Crown, beginning in 1814. The visitor experience not only covers battles and campaigns, but the culture, religion and social structure of Gurkha soldiers. Further details can be found at its website <https://thegurkhamuseum.co.uk> or by contacting the director or assistant director. See photos pages 26 and 27.

For further information, call:

Gurkha Museum

Martin Brooks, Chairman 07866 429100

Gavin Edgerley-Harris, Director 01962 842832

Christine Bernáth, Assistant Director 01962 842832

6GR Regimental Trust

Major Mani Rai MBE, Hon Secretary 0127641 2737



INFORMATION PLEASE - RESPONSES

Michael Ffinch Mitchell wrote seeking information on the death of his uncle.

A number of replies were received from members generously offering information on his uncle, Frederick James Stoneham, of the Nelson Battalion, KIA 13 July 1915.

Simon Fielding sent the clipping below which is from the *Eastbourne Gazette* of 4 August 1915, page 7. It reads:

On July 13, Seaman Fred Stoneham was killed in action at the Dardanelles. Deceased, who was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stoneham, of the Colonade Dining Rooms, was about eighteen years of age. Just before the war broke out he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. A well-built lad, he was a good athlete and was popular with all who knew him. On leaving school he was apprenticed to the engineering branch of the Eastbourne Corporation Motor 'Bus Department. Always keenly interested in his work, he showed considerable promise; and his untimely death is sincerely mourned by all connected with the works. The deepest sympathy is expressed for the bereaved parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Stoneham are anxious to hear from any of the deceased's comrades who are in a position to give any information regarding their son.

SEAMAN FRED STONEHAM



On July 13, Seaman Fred Stoneham was killed in action at the Dardanelles. Deceased, who was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Stoneham, of the Colonade Dining Rooms, was about eighteen years of age. Just before the war broke out he joined the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve. A well-built lad, he was a good athlete and was popular with all who knew him. On leaving school he was apprenticed to the engineering branch of the Eastbourne Corporation Motor 'Bus Department. Always keenly interested in his work, he showed considerable promise; and his untimely death is sincerely mourned by all connected with the works. The deepest sympathy is expressed for the bereaved parents.

Mr. and Mrs. Stoneham are anxious to hear from any of deceased's comrades who are in a position to give any information concerning their son.

SEAMAN F. STONEHAM.

Michael Robson provided the following information and pointers:

AB S 3/327 Frederick James Stoneham RNVR of the Nelson Battalion, RND, who died 13th July 1915; I may be able to offer a few pointers.

Stoneham's number is without the 'Z' prefix and this would appear to indicate that he had already enrolled in the RNVR before the outbreak of war in August 1914 [confirmed by the newspaper clipping - ed.]

The Nelson Battalion are fortunate in having an excellent modern history written by Capt. Roy Swales BSc RN rtd. and published by Pen & Sword Select in 2004 titled *Nelson at War 1914-1918*.

Pages 62-65 tell of the battle in which Stoneham was killed; the Action of Achi Baba Nullah 12th - 14th July 1915.

Quote from Lt Col Burge; "The Nelsons made a dashing charge but lost poor Evelegh (their colonel) and 16 officers and a lot of men... Our casualties were very heavy indeed and it was a victory at great expense." In fact, 99 of Nelson's other ranks were killed or died of wounds here, "the battalion's worst day on Gallipoli".

John Hartshorn, of north Yorkshire, responded to Michael's query stating that his great-grandfather had also fought in the Nelson Battalion and was involved in the action on July 13th 1915 when they all went 'over the top'. John also recommended reading *Nelson at War 1914-1918 - The History of the Nelson Battalion* by Roy Swales. John has reconstructed his great grandfather's movements and published them as a "100 years ago today" timeline on "his" Facebook account, which also contains interesting photos of battlefield maps: <https://www.facebook.com/ThomasOttoHartshorn/>

John was one of those lucky enough to have been one of 15 descendants that the Gallipoli Association / UK Government took out to Gallipoli for the centenary commemorations in April 2015, and also featured on the BBC's live coverage from the Cenotaph to mark the centenary of the landings.

John also provided Michael with a copy of his uncle's record from the National Archives site.

Norette provided a great deal of information, much of which was in the form of links to internet locations, but also the CWGC entry from the Helles memorial Gallipoli Part 1 *Sailors and Marines who fell on land*:

STONEHAM, A.B. Frederick James, Sussex
3/327. R.N.V.R. "Nelson" Bn. R.N. Div.
13th July, 1915. Age 17. Son of John and Emily
Stoneham, of 196, Latimer Rd., Eastbourne.

She stated: One Lieutenant Harry Biles was "Assistant Paymaster in the Royal Naval Division's 2nd Brigade, who was killed in action at the age of 36..." on the same day as Frederick James Stoneham

An account of his death can be found here: <https://peterhbiles.wordpress.com/2015/05/01/harry-biles-13-july-1915-age-36/>

(This is a very useful site for Michael)

From this we can ascertain ‘the Action of the Achi Baba Nullah’ (part of the battle for Gully Ravine) took place around 13th July.

The allies suffered disastrous losses in the July battle, and by 13 July, the advance at Helles was effectively over. Major General Granville Egerton, Headquarters, 52nd Division, later made this assessment of the fighting that took place on 12-13 July 1915:

“It seems to me that the fighting of this battle was premature and at the actual moment worse than unnecessary – I submit that it was cruel and wasteful. The troops on the Peninsula were tired and worn out. I contend that the Battle was due to a complete want of a true appreciation of the situation. If the conception of the battle was wrong, the tactics of the action were far worse. The division of the attack of two Brigades on a narrow front into two phases, no less than 9 hours apart, was positively wicked.”

My thanks to these members for the trouble they went to to provide comprehensive responses to Michael Ffinch Mitchell’s plea for information. I have passed your responses (in full) on to him. - Editor.

LIEUT. SULLIVAN’S DEATH.

Buried on Gallipoli Beach

How the Munsters Stormed Seddel-Bahr.

The death and burial on the beach of the Gallipoli Peninsula of Lieut. Sullivan, of the 1st Royal Munster Fusiliers — who was married at St. Osburg’s Church while in Coventry — is described in a letter from Quartermaster-Sergeant S. Ahern to Mr. C. Andrews, of 17, Gosford Street. He says: The 86th Brigade (Munsters, Dublins, Lancs, and Royal Fusiliers) received orders to land on the Gallipoli Peninsula and right nobly they carried out their task, but at a tremendous cost. Nearly half our brigade was out, but the landing was effective. Our battalion alone had nearly 500 casualties in the first hours. Once we got ashore and had a good look the fortifications offered to us it seemed almost if the task set the men was impossible, but as all the world knows by now the impossible was attained.

The cliffs bordering the sea were honeycombed with trenches, lined with tens of thousands of Turks and Germans, and machine-guns were uncountable. In my opinion it was the most difficult and perilous piece of work ever entrusted to an Army undertake. I cannot describe it to you as I would like, but I imagine that you will get all the news from the papers. Whatever they say will be true, as I believe that

no war correspondent could exaggerate when telling the story of the landing and the storming Sedd-el-Bahr. When the full report is published in England I think that Coventry will be proud of her late soldier guests, the Munsters. Sufficient to say that they proved themselves worthy of the name they always bore.

Half the Battalion Gone.

Of your lodgers, McNamara was severely wounded on 26th April, 1915. Fancott and myself are still in the land of the living. Captain Geddes got wounded the first day, and so did Lieut. Watts. The latter had seven wounds, in addition to six shots through his pack, but I hear that he is still living. Lieut. Perkins was wounded in the head on 25th April, 1915. Lieut. Waldegrave was wounded a few days ago, so all your officers suffered. Captain Geddes has rejoined us again. Lieut. Sullivan (who got married to Miss Bates, of the Albany Hotel) got wounded on 25th April and again few days ago. His second wound proved fatal, and he was buried on the beach. Our Regimental Sergt.-Major (Bennett) was killed on 26/4/15. Sergt.-Major Callaghan was appointed Sergt.-Major in his place, and was slightly wounded in two places on 28/4/15, although is still doing duty. Sumner got killed on the night of the 1-2 May. We have only got five unwounded soldiers in the battalion, and of the whole battalion that left Coventry we cannot now muster 400. Numbers tell their own tale regarding the severity of the fighting.

Razor Deflects a Bullet.

As regards myself, I had a few narrow shaves. The other day I was standing on a trench with others, when a shell burst and killed one man and wounded three others, without, however, doing any damage to your humble beyond putting a few shrapnel bullets (or pellets) through my coat. Another extraordinary thing happened; a bullet went clean through my haversack, caught one of the razors I got from you, and smashed it to atoms. Probably the razor deflected the bullet and saved my life — who knows? All these things are of very minor importance owing to the fact that we are under fire from shot and shell all hours of the day and night. I think that this place is worse than France. Nobody can say he is safe here. Our battalion was fourteen days in the trenches, fighting all the time.

Last Sunday we were sent back here (on the beach about a mile from the firing line) for a rest. We are still here, and I cannot say when we go forward again. We were addressed by the General Officer Commanding the Division this morning, and he said he was proud of us; that we had the best battalion, the best men, and the best and bravest officers that God ever made.

Pte. W. Jess, of the same battalion, writing to friend in Coventry at 112, Melbourne Road, describing the landing, says that when it was accomplished the water was red with British blood. He also mentions the praise the battalion received from G.O.C., and the heavy losses the Munsters sustained.

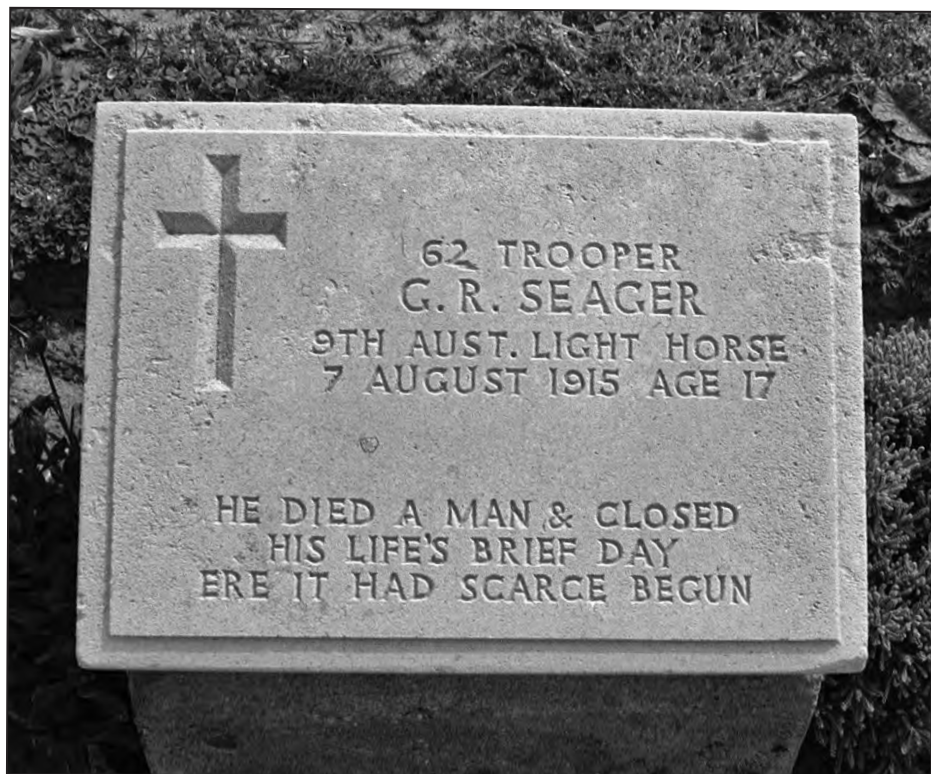
(Coventry Evening Telegraph - Monday 7 June 1915 p3).

A PATHETIC LETTER

Mrs. A. Seager has received from the late Lieut.-Col. Reynell, under date August 12, probably one of the last letters ever written by him for he was slain soon after its dispatch — expressing condolence with her on the death in action of her son George.

He wrote — “Your son was a gallant youth and a good soldier. He was always a volunteer for any dangerous mission, and didn’t know what fear was. At the time he was killed the fire was very hot, and the man working the machine gun had just been wounded; and, although it wasn’t his place to be there, your son immediately jumped into his position, and kept firing the gun until he was shot. I hope the knowledge that he died thus as a volunteer in the post of danger will to some extent be a consolation in your sorrow at the loss of so bright a boy.”

This letter was written shortly after the death of Lieut.-Col. Miell, and Mrs. Seager’s son fell at the same time as that valiant officer, and was buried alongside him. (*Register* (Adelaide, South Australia) 2 October 1915 p10).



Ari Burnu cemetery

TRUE TO NAME : BLOODY ANGLE

Major Geoffrey Hamlyn Lavicount Harris, M.C., V.D., 1st L.H. Regt.

On August 6, 1915, the position of the 1st Light Horse Brigade was: The 1st Light Horse holding Pope's Hill; 2nd Light Horse Regiment, Quinn's Post; and the 3rd Light Horse Regiment in support. The 3rd Light Horse Brigade held Walker's Ridge on our left.

Regimental orders were for the 1st Regiment to attack the chess-board formation of trenches on the left of the Bloody Angle, at daylight on August 7, in conjunction with the attack of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade and 2nd Light Horse Regiment, on the trenches to their front.

Taking our time in rotation from the left - "A" Squadron Bomb Throwers, under Lieut. Tinson, to go over the top immediately after the 3rd Brigade attacked ; "B" Squadron Bomb Throwers under my command to proceed by way of the gully on our right up the waterfall under the Bloody Angle ; and then to creep up in the dark and lie along under the shelter of the parapet of the first Turkish trench on our front and to await "A" Squadron's signal that it was going over, and then to attack. The remainder of "A" and "B" Squadrons to follow and support their own bombers under the command of Major Moffat Reid and Captain Wallace Cox. "C" Squadron to remain in and hold our front line and to support our attack with their covering fire.

At 3.30 a.m. on August 7, I fell in my little party of 12 bomb throwers and 12 riflemen with fixed bayonets in support. The latter were to use the cold steel.

We marched silently down our communication trenches to the gully, where we waited ten minutes while the engineers opened the barbed wire entanglements for us to get through.

Then up to the waterfall (which we scaled), to be met by a shower of Turkish bombs before we had time to get into any sort of order. I immediately gave the order to charge, and we quickly took the first two lines of trenches in our course bombing the Turks out.

Meanwhile, "A" Squadron, seeing that we had been forced to show our hand, went over and quickly took the first trench, and some of the members reached the second, but were either killed or driven back. Lieut. Tinson was mortally wounded; Major Reid was killed; Lieut. White and MacMillan were both wounded.

In the first ten minutes "A" Squadron was practically put out of action - over 50 per cent. were killed or wounded in the first rush. Some of the troops worked down the gully and joined "B" Squadron. Others helped back many of the wounded down the waterfall. Some of the wounded came on with "B" Squadron supports and were killed later on.

Meanwhile, our bombers went on and took the third line of trenches on a narrow front, and we could just see the Turks getting back along their communication trenches. It was just breaking daylight when we went over the hill to be met by the crescent trench, full of Turks, half out of their trench, waiting for us.

Machine guns were barking on three sides of us. Seeing that we could get no further, I gave the order "Down" and went to earth just as a bullet hit my shoulder. Sgt. Ellis, [true name Edward GAILLE - editor] who had stuck close to me from the start, went down on my right - killed instantly, riddled with bullets at close range.

Luckily, I fell in a small depression out of sight of the Turks. And then the 2nd Light Horse Regt. charged on our right, the Turks in front of me turned and directed the whole of their fire on to Quinn's Post, and I was able to get up and walk back without having a shot fired at me, leaving poor Ellis to mark the farthest point any of our men had reached.

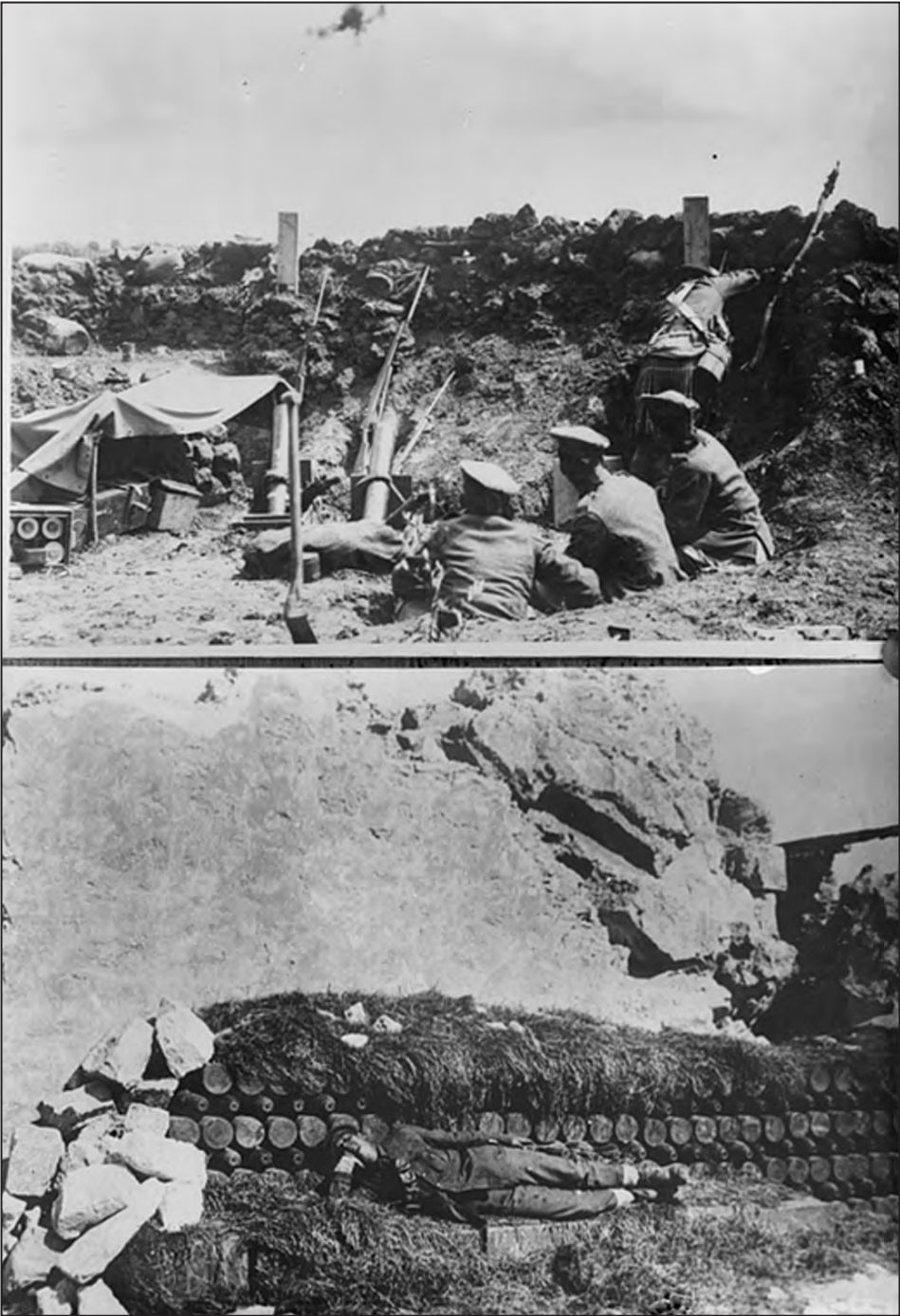
Our Trumpeter was lying on top of the hill with a bullet through his leg, and that was all that was left of my 24 men. Getting back to the third line of Turkish trenches I passed the wounded Trumpeter over and told him to crawl down to "B" Squadron supports and send me up reinforcements.

In the meantime I found a lot of Turkish bombs, and secured two Turks as prisoners. Five men came up to my support and we had a bomb fight with the Turks for over an hour, when Major Glasgow, Lt. Nettleton, and Lt. Weir, with 16 men, came up to join us and help consolidate our position.

The 3rd Brigade went over on Walker's Ridge [the attack on The Nek depicted in the movie *Gallipoli* - editor] fully an hour after we did. As the attack had been delayed on its left, the men were met by heavy machine gun fire and never reached their objective. The 2nd Regiment was also beaten back on our right. At 8 a.m., after we had consolidated our position and used some 1100 bombs which were sent up to us from Brigade, we were ordered to retire as our position was untenable.

When we reached our regimental lines I received orders to fall in all the men left of "A" and "B" Squadrons and get them into the line with "C" Squadron. All I could muster was 32 men, of whom 24 were wounded. Others came in later - but very few. In the morning we went out 199 strong. Nettleton was killed bringing a message back from Major Glasgow. Weir and Reid were both wounded [Reid was killed in action - editor]. Capt.. Cox was mortally wounded early in the attack and died on the hospital boat that day. [Lieutenant Tinson was also mortally wounded and died two days later - editor]

Three days later I was in No. 1 A.G.H., Heliopolis, and heard a Sister say, "Now, it is your turn. Where were you hit?" Thank God for the Sisters!



Unidentified: David Isby included these photos, presumably of the RND, with his article on Sterling Loop Larrabee, pages 31 - 40.



OBJECTIVES

To advance education for the public benefit by raising public awareness of the Gallipoli Campaign of 1915 and by encouraging and facilitating the study in the legacy and lessons of that campaign. To keep alive the memory of the campaign and to ensure that all who fought or served in it, and those who gave their lives, are not forgotten by applying such means as the Trustees deem fit.



The River Clyde at V Beach, 25 April 1915 by Charles Dixon

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The Gallipoli campaign is characterised by countless deeds of heroism and endurance. It took place in an area smaller than Southampton amid appalling conditions - heat, flies, lack of water, equipment and proper sanitation. Later on rain and a freak spell of sub-zero temperatures had to be endured, to say nothing of the desperate close-quarter fighting throughout the campaign. Some 559,000 Allied personnel were committed, of whom 420,000 were British and Empire troops, including 50,000 Australians and 9,000 New Zealanders, and 80,000 French. The cost in human terms was terrible. The Allies had 250,000 casualties, of whom approximately 58,000 were killed, with only 11,000 having known graves. Ottoman forces, with some Germans, numbered between 300,000 and 400,000 and of these some 87,000 were killed. The evacuations in December 1915 and early January 1916 were masterly operations - one of the great feats of military history.